



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Moriah Hydro Corporation

[Project No. 12635-002]

Notice of Application Tendered for Filing with the Commission and Soliciting Additional
Study Requests

(February 27, 2015)

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

- a. Type of Application: Original Major License
- b. Project No.: 12635-002
- c. Date filed: February 13, 2015
- d. Applicant: Moriah Hydro Corporation
- e. Name of Project: Mineville Energy Storage Project
- f. Location: The project would be located in an abandoned subterranean mine complex¹ in the town of Moriah, Essex County, New York. No federal lands are occupied by project works or located within the project boundary.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791 (a) - 825(r).
- h. Applicant Contact: James A. Besha, P.E., President, Moriah Hydro Corporation, 5 Washington Square, Albany, NY 12205; or at (518) 456-7712.
- i. FERC Contact: John Mudre, (202) 502-8902 or john.mudre@ferc.gov

¹ The existing mine complex is composed of the interconnected Old Bed, Bonanza open pit, and Harmony mines.

j. Cooperating agencies: Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. *See*, 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).

k. Pursuant to section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of filing of the application, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.

l. Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status: April 14, 2015

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-12635-002.

m. The application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.

n. The proposed project consists of: (1) an upper reservoir located within the upper portion of the mine between elevations 495 and 1,095 feet above mean seal level (msl), with a surface area of 4 acres and a storage capacity of 2,448 acre-feet; (2) a lower reservoir in the lower portion of the mine between elevations -1,075 and -1,555 feet msl, with a surface area of 5.1 acres and a storage capacity of 2,448 acre-feet; (3) a 14-foot-diameter and 2,955-foot-long upper reservoir shaft connecting the upper reservoir to the high-pressure penstock located below the powerhouse chamber floor; (4) a 14-foot-diameter and 2,955-foot-long lower reservoir shaft connecting the lower reservoir and the lower reservoir ventilation tunnel; (5) two 6-foot-diameter emergency evacuation shafts located between the powerhouse chamber and the electrical equipment chamber; (6) a 25-foot-diameter main shaft extending 2,955 feet from the surface down to the powerhouse chamber; (7) 15-foot-diameter high- and low-pressure steel penstocks embedded beneath the powerhouse chamber floor; (8) a 320-foot-long by 80-foot-wide powerhouse

chamber, containing 100 reversible pump-turbine units, each with a nameplate generating capacity of 2.4 megawatts; (9) a 274-foot-long by 36-foot-wide underground electrical equipment chamber adjacent to the powerhouse chamber; (10) an inclined electrical tunnel connecting the electrical equipment chamber to a new 115-kilovolt (kV) substation constructed adjacent to an existing single circuit 115-kV transmission line located about one horizontal mile from the underground powerhouse chamber; and (11) appurtenant facilities. The project would operate as a closed-loop system to meet energy demands and grid control requirements. The project would have an average annual generation of 421 gigawatt-hours (GWh). The average pumping power used by the project would be 554 GWh.

o. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

p. Procedural schedule: The application will be processed according to the following preliminary Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Issue Notice of Acceptance or Deficiency	April 2015
Request Additional Information	April 2015
Issue Acceptance Letter	July 2015
Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments	August 2015
Comments on Scoping Document 1	September 2015
Issue Scoping Document 2	October 2015
Issue notice of ready for environmental analysis	October 2015
Commission issues EA, draft EA, or draft EIS	April 2016
Comments on EA, draft EA, or draft EIS	June 2016
Commission issues final EA or final EIS	August 2016

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015-05251 Filed: 3/5/2015 08:45 am; Publication

Date: 3/6/2015]